



Gospel Jn 15:1-8

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine,
and my Father is the vinedresser.
Every branch in me that bears no fruit
he cuts away,
and every branch that does bear fruit he
prunes
to make it bear even more.
You are pruned already,
by means of the word that I have spoken to
you.
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,
but must remain part of the vine,
neither can you unless you remain in me.
I am the vine,
you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty;
for cut off from me you can do nothing.
Anyone who does not remain in me
is like a branch that has been thrown away
– he withers;
these branches are collected and thrown on
the fire,
and they are burnt.
If you remain in me
and my words remain in you,
you may ask what you will
and you shall get it.
It is to the glory of my Father that you should
bear much fruit,
and then you will be my disciples.'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

We are too familiar with today's gospel. Christ is the vine and we are the branches, sometimes in need of a good pruning. But God's purpose is not to produce a perfect vineyard. It is to produce a full-bodied wine at the end of history.

There is a foretaste of this at every Mass. The wine we offer – 'fruit of the earth and work of human hands' – becomes the spiritual drink which best serves the purpose of our Heavenly Father. How does this happen?

For the Jewish people observing an animal whose throat is cut, it is obvious that the life drains out with the blood. 'Life' and 'blood' became synonyms. So, when the Jewish Jesus says of the wine in the chalice at the Last Supper: 'This is my blood', amongst other things he is saying: 'This is my life force, this is my very life given unreservedly for you.'

So, when we drink from the chalice at Holy Communion, the life of the Risen Lord courses through our bodies just as the sap of the vine courses through its branches. We share the same ultimate vitality so that our bodily existence builds into the Body of Christ. He becomes truly 'full-bodied' as the Divine Vignerone desires.

We could take a moment to pray that we respond to the pruning and the tending and the pressing by our Heavenly Father so as to contribute our distinctive character to the vintage at the end of history, the spiritual drink of the Kingdom of Heaven.

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Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year B

2 May 2021

First Reading Acts 9:26-31

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:26-28, 30-32, R. v.26

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

or:

(R.) Alleluia.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! (R.)
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. (R.)
3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.

They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.' (R.)

Second Reading 1 Jn 3:18-24

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children,
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,
but something real and active;
only by this can we be certain
that we are the children of the truth
and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence,
whatever accusations it may raise against us,
because God is greater than our conscience
and he knows everything.

My dear people,
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,
we need not be afraid in God's presence,
and whatever we ask him,
we shall receive,
because we keep his commandments
and live the kind of life that he wants.
His commandments are these:
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus
Christ
and that we love one another
as he told us to.
Whoever keeps his commandments
lives in God and God lives in him.
We know that he lives in us
by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

We pray for all who are sick in our parish community.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Margaret Lane, Vincent Tin Tran

ANNIVERSARIES

Paul Aparo, Sebastiana & Salvatore Aparo, Phyllis Perry, Rocco Cesile, Nancy Palumbo, Giovanni Luca, Francesco & Columba Maurici, Giuseppe & Antonio Maurici, Giuseppe & Angela Sidari

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S PARISH

Sunday, 9 May 2021 at 12 Noon

Remington & Lexington CULLEN

Please pray for these children and their family.

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you all for your continued support. For those who prefer to, online donations can be made as follows:-

Presbytery Collection – 1st Collection

Account Name: St Peter's Presbytery A/C BSB: 083 347 Account No. 66541 7521 Reference as your first initial then surname, or remain anonymous

Church Collection – 2nd Collection

Account Name: St Peter's Church Account BSB: 083 347 A/C No. 53530 4676 Reference as your first initial then surname and if known, your giving number e.g. ASmith T/G 500

EASTER OFFERINGS

Envelopes are available in the narthex.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Please return your Project Compassions boxes or envelopes no later than **Sunday, 9th May**.

EASTER HOUSE BLESSINGS

Please contact the parish office if you would like your house blessed for Easter.

WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY – NO 7PM MASS

No 7.00pm Mass on Wednesday, 5th May due to Confirmations being celebrated. **Morning Mass will be at 9.15am.**

ST PETER'S PARISH AND PRIMARY SCHOOL, EAST KEILOR

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

SUNDAY, 2ND MAY

Golden Jubilee Mass at 10.30am

Principal Celebrant:

Archbishop Peter Comensoli

WELCOME

We welcome to our 50th Anniversary Jubilee Mass Archbishop Peter Comensoli, Visiting Clergy, our Parish Pioneers, Parish Groups, Special Guests, the School Community, Parishioners and Friends.

Following Mass, refreshments will be available in the School multi-purpose hall. Please follow the signage and be patient while waiting to enter. Queuing on the X marked on the floor is necessary to honour physical distancing.

Instant tea & coffee will be available from the School canteen at no cost. A coffee van will serve freshly brewed coffee and will offer this at a special price of \$2.

Between 12noon & 1.00pm, the children will perform a Harmony Dance on the side yard turf area. Some chairs will be available for the elderly to sit and watch.

We hope today will be an opportunity for many of you to catch up with friends you may not have seen for quite a while.

May you all enjoy the Jubilee Celebrations.

CHRONICLE OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE PARISH, EAST KEILOR

Each family attending today's Mass will receive a free copy of St Peter's Memorial book. Written by our parishioner, Adrian Commadeur, it is a wonderful chronicle of the Parish & School. Thank you Adrian for your tireless work in getting this book written & published for our 50th Anniversary.

THANK YOU to all the volunteers who have been working behind the scenes to make this a special day for the Parish & School, and to those who are volunteering today. May God bless you all.

LIVING STONES

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the living stone, so that we, as living stones, may become a home of the Spirit. Lord, it is good for us to be here.

Let your love be real, and shun what is evil, hold fast to what is good.

Let your zeal be strong, be fired by the Spirit, give service to the Lord.

Celebrate in hope, be patient in suffering, and steadfast in your prayer.

Rejoice with those in joy, and weep with the downcast, be one with one another.

This hymn was specially written by the Jesuit composer Fr Chris Willcock for the 2010 Dedication of the Church of St Peter the Apostle.

QR CODES FOR REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS GATHERINGS

The Government now requires us to use QR Codes for registration, except in extraordinary circumstances. Those without a smartphone to register themselves can have their details recorded at the church door – on every occasion both first name and phone number – and the Registrars will subsequently enter this in the QR Code system using their own smartphones. So, to keep having our Masses open to the public, we ask as many people as possible with smartphones to volunteer as Registrars. (You can scan the parish QR Code below to register yourself in future, without queueing.)

PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE, EAST KEILOR – QR CODE



ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

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<https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277>

MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times:

9.15am Saturday Morning Mass

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

8.30am, 10.30am & 5.00pm Sunday Masses

Weekday Mass Times:

9.15am Tuesday, Thursday & Friday (followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction)

7.00pm Wednesday (followed by Benediction & Devotion to two hearts)

RECONCILIATION

9.45am Saturday; 5.30pm Saturday

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Ms Linda Tarraran

Phone: 03 9337 4111

Email: principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au

Administration: Ms Belinda McPherson & Mrs Sherrill Johnson

SCHOOL NEWS

CONFIRMATION AT ST PETER'S

On Wednesday, 5th May at 5.30pm and 7.30pm, Year 6 Candidates from St Peter's Parish Primary School will be confirmed by Bishop Terry Curtin. We congratulate and pray for all Candidates, together with their sponsors, teachers and families.

The Parish of St Peter's, Keilor East and the Diocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community.